**MSc HTA**

**Course outline – HTA: Policy & Principles**

**Course title:** HTA: Policy & Principles

**Credits:** 20

**Course date:** 1st semester – Ten teaching weeks

**Course Co-ordinators:**

Prof [Jim Lewsey,](http://www.gla.ac.uk/researchinstitutes/healthwellbeing/staff/jimlewsey/) Professor in Medical Statistics. Email: [jim.lewsey@glasgow.ac.uk](mailto:jim.lewsey@glasgow.ac.uk)

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**Aim**: This course will provide both a theoretical and practical understanding of the policy and principles behind, and the techniques involved with the process of health technology assessment (HTA). This course aims to provide students with a critical awareness of the broader policy context into which HTA is located as well as a critical understanding of the theoretical underpinnings, principles and assessment methods applied in HTA.

**Learning objectives:**

By the end of this course students will be able to:

1. Critically analyses the policy, principles, methods and analytical techniques appropriate for HTA.
2. Critically discuss the role of HTA in policy development.
3. Evaluate how the policy context varies between international regions and countries
4. Critically discuss the multidisciplinary nature of HTA and the diverse range of skills and knowledge required to conduct the different elements of the process (statistical methods and analysis, outcome measurement, evidence synthesis, health economics, economic evaluation, decision analytic modelling)
5. Critically assess the research methodologies used for informing priorities and decision making in health care systems.
6. Develop original and creative approaches to translate policy issues into research proposals to assess health technologies
7. Critically appraise the reporting of and the use of different methodology within the process of HTA
8. Critically analyse the ethical issues associated with the process and practice of HTA.

**Teaching sessions:** 10-week online course comprising 10 lectures and 10 accompanying practical exercises. The practical exercises include computing exercises using literature searching databases and Excel, alongside directed reading and problem solving. Students and the academic lead will engage with an online discussion board each week.

**Student assessment:** The assessment will comprise development of a protocol for carrying out an HTA (individual written assessment, 2500 word limit (excluding references) – 75% of grade) and critiquing a published HTA report (group-work based oral presentation and response to questioning, 25% of grade).

**Timetable:**

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| **Week** | **Session title** | **Faculty** |
| **1** | What is HTA? | JL |
| **2** | How is new evidence about technologies obtained (primary research)? a) quantitative evidence | JL |
| **3** | How is new evidence about technologies obtained (primary research)? b) qualitative evidence | EGe |
| **4** | How to review and synthesise evidence | OW |
| **5**  **Revision** | Database searching for existing evidence | DR |
| **6** | Outcome measures in HTA | EM |
| **7** | Frameworks for decision making | KB |
| **8** | Critical appraisal of evidence for HTA | NM |
| **9** | Dissemination and impact of HTA | EGr |
| **10** | Social, ethical and legal aspects of HTA; presentation and discussion: HTA policy making in the UK | KR |
| **Extra resources** | How to present research? | NB |

Faculty: Emma McIntosh (EM), Eleanor Grieve (EGr), Evi Germeni (EGe), Dikshyanta Rana (DR), Jim Lewsey (JL), Kathleen Boyd (KB), Karen Ritchie (KR), Nicola McMeekin (NM), Olivia Wu (OW)